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TENOR OF JAPS' DEMANDS IS OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED

Insists Upon Concessions in Corea Equal to Those of Russia in Manchuria.

If Russia Fails to Submit to the Arrange- ment Japan Will Pave the Way for the Precipitation of Trouble.

Washington, Jan. 2.—The Associated Press learns from an official source that Japan, in her last note to the Russian government, announced that the minimum proposition she can accept from Russia are rights in Corea equal to those claimed by Russia in Manchuria. In return, it is said, Japan agrees to recognize the supremacy of Russia in Manchuria. To this proposition the Russian government will not give approval, feeling that Japan should content herself with modifications in the form of concessions in Corea for her commerce.

The Russian government has not abandoned hope of diplomatic settlement of the question, in view of the powerful pressure which Great Britain and France are bringing to bear upon Japan to consent to continuance of the negotiations, but it is emphatically stated that Russia will never admit a parallel between her position in Manchuria and that of Japan in Corea.

Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, thinks the far eastern situation "gloomy, but not without hope of salvation."

At the Japanese legation tonight it was intimated that if Japan is convinced of Russia's intention not to accept her proposals, the Tokio government, it is declared, will not hesitate to take the initiative and assume the responsibility for making war.

NO DATE FOR REPLY SET

Faint Hopes Extended to Japan By High Officials.

London, Jan. 2.—No word has yet been received here tending to show when the Russian reply to Japan may

be expected. Foreign Secretary Lansdowne has informed Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister, that he fears the war party in Russia is in the ascendant and that he has faint hopes of Japan receiving a favorable reply.

Baron Hayashi says he has received no news of the intended dispatch of a Japanese squadron to Masampho. The last news he heard was that a Russian cruiser was there. The minister pointed out that the dispatch of a squadron to Masampho would not necessarily be a warlike action, though it could scarcely help being regarded in the line of other precautions which Japan had openly taken.

The weekly papers here share in the general feeling of alarm current in Great Britain. The Spectator says war draws even nearer, and adds:

"If we are dragged into this war, as we may be, the country will not be divided in sympathy, dislike of Russia being as strong among the masses of our population as it was in 1855."

The paper surmises that Russia may keep her ships in her harbors, as she did during the Crimean war, thereby forcing land action or a dangerous attempt by Japan to seize Port Arthur and Vladivostok.

The Saturday Review adopts a somewhat similar tone, saying that the likelihood of Chinese intervention menaces the commercial interests of all Europe and the United States.

Information has been received in a London diplomatic quarter unfriendly to Russia that M. Bezobragoff, who was recently raised by the czar to a secretaryship of state, is the power behind the scenes of the Russo-Japanese negotiations. M. Bezobragoff, according to this source of information,

who is now the prime favorite of the czar, and the leader of the war party, is president of the Yalu River Timber Company; is largely interested in commercial interests in Corea, and is the bosom friend of Viceroy Alexieff. Though the news is evidently partial it receives some credit and adds to the alarmist feeling.

JAPAN IN READINESS.

May Seize Port or Two in Order to Forestall Russia's Moves.

Tokio, Japan, Jan. 2.—The report is current that the Japanese squadron of six armored cruisers under Admiral Kamimura, now at Saseho, will seize the port of Masampho, Corea, and that its departure has been fixed for January 4. In well informed circles, however, it is doubtful that Japan would seize Masampho or any Korean port except to forestall Russia in the event of the latter showing evidences of an intention to take such a step, or in the event of the negotiations between the two countries finally ending in failure. Great activity prevails and the force of workmen has been increased at the Osaka arsenal. The holidays of the arsenal operatives have been curtailed in order to hurry up the work in hand.

CONDITIONS RESTRICT TRADE.

Russia Will Hold Back Maritime Fleet Indefinitely.

New York, Jan. 2.—Although a notice of the inauguration of a new steamship line between Odessa and New York has been posted on the maritime exchange, advices from St. Petersburg state that the beginning of the proposed Russian volunteer fleet service between Black sea ports and New York, via Italy, has been indefinitely postponed. It is supposed the Russian government is holding the ships which are to be used owing to the situation in the far east. At present there is no regular line of Russian steamers running to this country and the Russian flag either over sail or steam is rarely seen in American ports.

PLAN MAY AVERT WAR.

Russia to Guarantee Integrity of China on Conditions.

Paris, Jan. 2.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Paris edition of the New York Herald says that as a result of the consultation between the emperor and his officials, a plan has been worked out which may avert war. The plan, the correspondent says, contemplates the guarantee by Russia of the integrity of China with the understanding that her protectorate over Manchuria be recognized and in return Japan be allowed to fulfill her wishes with respect to Corea.

Italy Prefers Neutrality.

Paris, Jan. 2.—The Figaro this morning says that the big guns for the Japanese battleships Kasaga and Nishin, which were bought from Argentina, have not yet been supplied to the vessels. The Italian government officials say they resist that they receive their armament elsewhere in order to avoid the impression that Italy is unfriendly to Russia.

Japanese Lose Shipping Business.

New York, Jan. 2.—One effect of the far eastern situation has been to transfer a good deal of shipping business from Japanese to neutral flags, principally the British, says a Times dispatch from London. The amount of cargo shipped from Europe for the far east has fallen off greatly.

Far East Vessels Not Insured.

San Francisco, Jan. 2.—An indication of the imminence of war is shown by the refusal of German underwriters in this city to insure vessels bound for the far east.

BELOVED PRINCESS DEAD.

Aged Niece of Great Napoleon Dies At Paris.

Paris, Jan. 3.—Princess Mathilde, only daughter of Prince Jerome, died tonight. The death of Princess Mathilde has caused sorrow throughout

France, not only because she was one of the last of the Napoleons, but because she was always known as the "good princess."

THE TROUBLES OF AH SOU.

Arrest of Slave Girl Brings to Light Lawless Ring.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 2.—Ah Sou, the Chinese girl 16 year old, who has been sold as a slave three times in the last three years, is in jail and two Chinamen who were charged with aiding her to elude immigration officers are also under arrest. The girl was first sold to a Chinaman in Ellensburg. She was spirited away from there and sold to a Chinese merchant in Portland and then escaped to Seattle, where she was married to one of the men now in jail. The officers believe they have unearthed a ring that has been trafficking in slave girls.

GENERAL LONGSTREET NO MORE

Famous Officer of Confederacy Dies of Pneumonia.

Atlanta, Jan. 2.—General James Longstreet, soldier, statesman and diplomat, and the last lieutenant-general of the confederacy, with the one exception of General James B. Gordon, died in Gainesville today from an attack of acute pneumonia. He had been ill but two days.

Three Informations Filed.

Helena, Mont., Jan. 2.—Three informations were filed today in the district court against Isaac Gravelle, who was found guilty a few days ago of sending threatening letters to the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. Two of the informations charge him with sending blackmailing letters from Helena and the other charges burglary in the first degree. Penalty on conviction of the first degree burglary is imprisonment from 10 years to life.

NOT ROBBERS

Practical Jokers Stop a Train by Waving Signal Lanterns.

Detectives Looking for Three Young Men Supposed to Be Desperadoes.

Olympia, Wash., Jan. 2.—Officials of the Northern Pacific Railway Company today notified the authorities of this county of the attempted hold up of passenger train No. 4 from Portland to Tacoma at Rainier early this morning. An investigation of the attempted robbery reveals a hoax perpetrated by three young men who had attended a New Year's dance and imbibed too freely of intoxicants. They thought it would be a joke to flag the train and accomplished their purpose with the aid of two lanterns. When the train stopped they extinguished their lanterns, mounted their horses and rode rapidly away. The men were seen by the train crew, who supposed the robbery had been planned but that the courage of the robbers failed them at the critical moment. Detectives are searching for the jokers. Superintendent Albee says they will be punished if apprehended.

DESERTED WIFE SUES COUNTESS

Charges That Wife of Farmer Attache Alienated Her Husband's Affections.

Washington, Jan. 2.—Countess Esterhazy, widow of Count Maximilian Esterhazy, at one time secretary of the Austrian embassy in Washington, is defendant in a damage suit for \$100,000 brought by Mrs. Laura De Lang, who charged that the countess alienated her husband's affections. The papers were served on the countess here tonight. Mrs. De Lang says her husband left their home in Virginia on August 3, and has since spent much of his time in company with Countess Esterhazy in Washington. Friends of the countess said tonight that Mr. De Lang had been received by her as a friend and that she had no knowledge of the fact that he was married.

Story Doubtless a Canard.

Panama, Jan. 2.—The naval authorities have not the slightest confirmation of the reported sinking of the Colombia gunboat, General Pinzon, by an American warship, they believe it is not worthy of credence.

ALL CHICAGO THEATERS ARE CLOSED BY ORDER OF MAYOR HARRISON

Managers Besiege City's Chief Magistrate, Urging Him to Withdraw or at Least Postpone Action.

Mayor Is Obdurate to All Pleadings, and Insists That Playhouses Must Comply in Full with Regulating Ordinances Before They Can Be Opened for Business— Advised by Strong Legal Counsel.

Chicago, Jan. 2.—Tonight every theater in Chicago is dark and its doors are locked. Not one of them will be open to the public till their managers have complied in the fullest manner with every section of the ordinances regulating playhouses.

The order compelling theaters to close was issued this afternoon by Mayor Harrison after a conference with the corporation counsel, Tolman, who assured the mayor that ample legal ground existed for his action.

There was a hasty rush of theatrical managers to the office of Mayor Harrison in an effort to secure the withdrawal or at least a postponement of the order, but were informed by the mayor that the inspectors had reported in the case of every one of them had violated the law and he was determined that it should not be said that the city had neglected anything which could prevent a repetition of last Wednesday afternoon.

It was announced that every theater in the city must hereafter comply with the following provisions before they will be allowed to reopen:

"Steel roll curtains, wide exits, no combustibles of any kind in the house furnishings, fire-proof scenery, no calcium or 'spot' lights to be used in stage sky lights above, stage to be provided with automatic lids to permit egress of smoke, fire and gas, separate stairways, each exit having its own stairs leading to street."

PROPRIETORS UNDER ARREST.

Husband and Father of Fire Victims Will Prosecute.

Chicago, Jan. 2.—The Inter-Ocean this morning says that warrants have been issued for the arrest of Will J. Davis and Harry Powers, proprietors of the Iroquois theater and George Williams, city building inspector, on the criminal charge of manslaughter.

The warrants were issued by Justice George W. Underwood at his residence after 11 o'clock last night and the charges were sworn to by Arthur E. Hull, of 244 Oakwood Boulevard, who lost his wife and three children in the fire.

The warrants, the Inter-Ocean says, were not served in the regular manner. The three men accused were notified by telephone that the warrants had been issued and were directed to appear at 11 o'clock this morning at Justice Underwood's court and give bonds. The attorneys for Messrs. Powers and Davis assured the justice that their clients would appear at the stated hour.

Mr. Hull, the complaining witness, is connected with the Chicago commercial agency. Tomorrow he will leave Chicago with the four members of his family for his wife's former home, Troy, N. Y., where they will be buried. Mr. Hull stated that he would return immediately after the funeral to prosecute the charge. His entire family was wiped out in the fire.

Number Dead.

Chicago, Jan. 2.—The total number of dead at the theater fire was definitely established at 587, of which but 12 remain unidentified.

AUTHORITIES ARE CAUTIOUS.

San Francisco Theaters Must Be Safely Constructed.

San Francisco, Jan. 2.—There is likely to be a dearth of theatrical amusement in this city within the next two months.

It is the plan of the board of public works to close theaters that are unsafe until such time as they can be remodelled and provided with exits sufficient in

(Continued on page 4)

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